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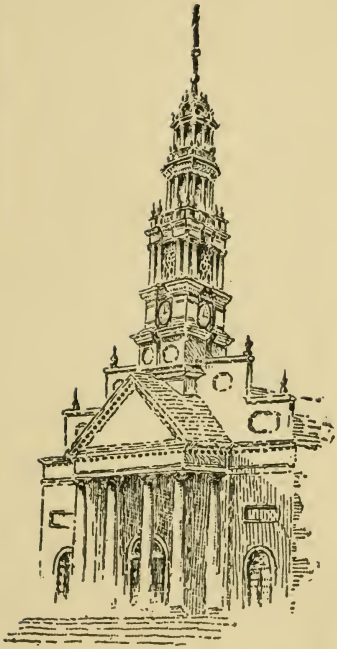

# The First Church of Christ in Hartford

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## The Ministers
## The Meeting Houses
## The Memorial Gifts

# THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN HARTFORD

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THE MINISTERS

THE MEETING HOUSES

THE MEMORIAL GIFTS

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# THE MINISTERS

| | |
|---|---|
| Thomas Hooker | 1633–1647 |
| Samuel Stone | 1633–1663 |
| John Whiting | 1660–1670 |
| Joseph Haynes | 1664–1679 |
| Isaac Foster | 1680–1682 |
| Timothy Woodbridge | 1685–1732 |
| Daniel Wadsworth | 1732–1747 |
| Edward Dorr | 1748–1772 |
| Nathan Strong | 1774–1816 |
| Joel Hawes | 1818–1867 |
| Wolcott Calkins | 1862–1864 |
| George H. Gould | 1864–1870 |
| Elias H. Richardson | 1872–1879 |
| George Leon Walker | 1879–1900 |
| Charles Marion Lamson | 1894–1899 |
| Rockwell Harmon Potter | 1900- |

# THE MEETING HOUSES

**The House in Newtown** (now Cambridge), Massachusetts, was used by the Church from its organization in 1632 until its removal to Hartford, in 1636

**The First House in Hartford** was a temporary and rude building near the site of the present Post Office, used from 1636 until 1640

**The Second House in Hartford** was near the site of the present Post Office, and was used from 1641 until 1739

**The Third House in Hartford** was built upon the site of the present Meeting House in 1739, and was used until 1807

**The Fourth House in Hartford** was built in 1807. The hundredth anniversary of its dedication was celebrated December 1-3, 1907

**The First Lecture Room** of the Church was built in 1814 upon the north side of Temple street, between Main and Market streets. **The Second Lecture Room** building north of the Meeting House was purchased in 1832, and used until 1909, when the **Center Church House** was built

**The Name of the Church is The First Church of Christ in Hartford.** The successive meeting houses have been known by various names. The present house has long been known as **Center Church**, a name often familiarly used of the Church itself

# THE MEMORIAL GIFTS

## THE WINDOWS

**The Pastors Window**, at the west end of the Meeting House, in memory of the Pastors of the Church during the first two hundred and fifty years of its history

The gift of Samuel Hamilton, in 1881

Subject: The Ascension, with scenes from the Nativity and the Baptism

**The Catlin Window**, in memory of the Catlin family

The gift of Julius Catlin, in 1883

Subject: The Cross and the Crown

**The Bissell Window**, the gift of George P. Bissell in memory of his mother, Henrietta *Perkins* Bissell (Mrs. Josiah), and his daughter, Henrietta Perkins Bissell, in 1884

Subject: St. Anne Instructing the Virgin

**The Perkins Window** in memory of Ellen, George C. and Edward H. Perkins, members of this Church

The gift of their mother, Sarah *Emmons* Perkins (Mrs. Henry A.), in 1886

Subject: Jesus Blessing the Children

**The Henry A. Perkins Window**, in memory of Henry A. Perkins, a member of this Church

The gift of his wife, Sarah *Emmons* Perkins, in 1886

Subject: The Holy Family

**The Corning Window,** in memory of Ezra Corning, George Corning and George W. Corning, Deacons of this Church

The bequest of George W. Corning, in 1887

Subject: The Transfiguration

**The Gallaudet Window,** in memory of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, the founder of deaf-mute instruction in America and the first preacher to the insane, a member of this Church

The gift of Peter Wallace Gallaudet, his son, in 1887

Subject: The Healing of the Dumb Demoniac

**The Day Window,** in memory of Calvin and Catherine *Seymour* Day, members of this Church

The gift of their children, Caroline Seymour Day, Katherine Perkins *Day* Jackson, Julia Seymour *Day* Bissell and John Calvin Day, in 1894

Subject: The Resurrection Morning

**The Smith Window,** in memory of Wilder Smith

The gift of his wife, Charlotte M. *Davis* Smith, in 1894

Subject: St. John on the Isle of Patmos

**The Caldwell Window,** in memory of John Caldwell, member of this Church

The gift of John Caldwell Parsons, in 1894

Subject: The Angel of the Resurrection

**The Bryan Hooker Window,** in memory of Bryan Edward Hooker, a Deacon of this Church

The gift of his wife, Martha H. *Williams* Hooker and their sons Edward W. and Thomas W. Hooker, in 1899

Subject: Hope

**The Hooker Window**, in memory of "Thomas Hooker, Pastor of this Church 1633-1647; transplanted it to Hartford 1636; leader among the founders of this city and commonwealth"

The gift of Mary *Turner* Hooker (Mrs. Edward W.), in 1900

Subject: Hooker Preaching at Hartford

**The Wells Window**, in memory of Horace Wells, the discoverer of anæsthesia, and Elizabeth *Wales* Wells, his wife, members of this Church

The gift of their son, Charles T. Wells, in 1903
Subject: Mercy and Truth

**The Seymour Windows**, in memory of Harvey Seymour
The bequest of his wife, in 1914
Subjects: Jesus and Nicodemus
The Lilies of the Field

# THE TABLETS

**The Kendall Tablet,** in memory of Stephen Preston Kendall, his wife, Lucretia *Post* Kendall, and their daughter, Jennett P. *Kendall* Mayo, (Mrs. William K.)
The gift of William K. Mayo, in 1888

**The Hawes Tablet,** in memory of Joel Hawes, Pastor of this Church, in 1896

**The Williams Tablet,** in memory of Thomas Scott Williams, a Deacon of this Church
The gift of John Caldwell Parsons, in 1896

**The Cooke Tablet,** in memory of JohnWarburton Cooke
The gift of the Congregation, in 1899

**The Dennis Tablet,** in memory of Rodney Dennis
The gift of his children, Grace *Dennis* Cutler (Mrs. R.W.), Charlotte W. *Dennis* Little (Mrs. Thomas), Bertha P. Dennis and Rodney Strong Dennis, in 1899

**The Parsons Tablet,** in memory of John Caldwell Parsons
The gift of his sisters, Mary *Parsons* Webb (Mrs. Watson) and Elizabeth S. *Parsons* Newton (Mrs. John W.), and his son, Francis Parsons, in 1900

**The Walker Tablet,** in memory of George Leon Walker, Pastor of this Church
The gift of the Congregation, in 1901

**The Lamson Tablet,** in memory of Charles Marion Lamson, Pastor of this Church
The gift of the Congregation, in 1901

**The Tablet in the Porch** giving the name of the Church and the hours of service
The gift of Frank G. Smith, in 1901

**The Hills Tablet,** in memory of J. Coolidge Hills
The gift of his wife, Elsie *Sessions* Hills, in 1915

# THE OTHER MEMORIALS

**The Pulpit Bible** in the Version of 1611

The gift of Reuben Smith, in memory of his father, Solomon Smith, in 1814

**The Pulpit Bible,** in the American Version of 1901

The gift of Charles A. Jewell, in memory of his sister, Charlotte A. Jewell, in 1905

**The Pulpit Table**

The gift of Antoinette R. Phelps, in memory of her niece Antoinette R. Phelps Pierson, in 1903

**The Antique Pulpit Chair**

The gift of Charles T. Wells, in 1907

**The Baptismal Font**

The gift of Mary D. and Charlotte M. Ely, in memory of their mother, Clarissa May *Davis* Ely (Mrs. William), in 1892

**The Baptismal Bowl**

The gift of Charles T. Wells, in memory of George Leon Walker, Pastor of this Church, in 1903

**The Communion Table,** in memory of Sarah *Emmons* Perkins (Mrs. Henry A.), the gift of her grandchildren, Mabel H., Henry A. and Edward C. Perkins, in 1901

**The Communion Plates** for use in the galleries were the gift of Newman Hungerford, in memory of his mother, Caroline *Catlin* Hungerford (Mrs. Anson), in 1904

**The Memorial Chairs** were given on the occasion of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the dedication of the Meeting House, in memory of ten founders of the Church by ten of their lineal descendants, on December 1, 1907

**The Silver Offering Plates** were given in memory of eight founders of the Church by eight lineal descendants, in 1908

**The Memorial Organ** was the gift of Lucy *Sedgwick* Church, in memory of her husband, Leonard D. Church. It was placed within the case of the organ built in 1835. In 1907 the organ was rebuilt as an anniversary gift of the Congregation in gratitude for the preservation of the Meeting House through one hundred years, in 1883

**The Safes** for the keeping of the records of the Church and of the Communion Service were given by Newman Hungerford, in memory of his father, Anson Hungerford, and of his brother Clarence Catlin Hungerford, in 1904

**The Day Gateway**, at the north side of the Meeting House was given in memory of John Calvin Day, by his wife, Alice B. *Hooker* Day, and their daughters, Katherine Seymour Day and Alice Hooker Day, in 1903

**The Center Church House**, the Parish House of this Church, with the site on which it is built, was given in memory of Francis B. Cooley, by his wife, Clarissa A. *Smith* Cooley, and their children, Francis R. Cooley, Sarah *Cooley* Hall (Mrs. George A.), Charles P. Cooley and Clara *Cooley* Jacobus (Mrs. Melancthon W.), in 1905

**The Camp Site** at Columbia, Conn. William R. Sanborn gave to the Church a camp site of thirty-two acres on Columbia Lake in memory of his father and mother, Daniel R. and Annie R. Sanborn, in 1914

**The Memorial Funds** are recorded in the Year Book of the Church

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